

Minutes
25 August 2015
Cemetery Board of Trustees
Town of Wilton NH

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. with 3 trustees: John Jowders (Chair) Steve Elliot, Mary Ann Shea (Secretary).

Minutes of the previous meeting (28 July 2015) were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Steve Elliot, seconded by Mary Ann Shea. All in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Poly vaults: no change.
- Cremains unclaimed at Michaud-Nelson funeral home: no change.
- Cemetery Database (HMIS) training: September? Probably sometime after Labor Day.
- Burial paperwork: still seems tedious, but is working. Maybe we can look at streamlining the process once we get past the perpetual care issue.
- Perpetual Care: will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Water Department bill: charge was for materials only-broken pipe.
- Fence at Laurel Hill: Can we find the money for this? The fence looks pretty bad; John asked Mike Young about it-Mike is too busy this year to get to it. What about Jared Jensen? John will get a price from him. Ballpark estimate is probably \$3000-\$3500 to have the fence repaired and painted. Perhaps we can begin the work this year and finish next year?
- Flagpole painting: Laurel Hill completed, South Yard on its last coat.
- Lot numbers at Vale End: recent burial was not on any of the maps we have-how do we describe the lot with no map or number on the interment document? It was decided to note the general area (Main Section) and the graves to either side. We need to look into mapping that section of the cemetery if there are going to be new burials there...unless we can find a map that includes that area.

BUDGET and MAINTENANCE:

Short discussion of the general state of the Budget. Steve said he thinks we are in fairly good shape. There is a question about income shown on one of the reports-Steve will check on it.

We'll take a look at the budget in September to see if we have the money to begin work on the Laurel Hill fence.

MEETING WITH TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS-Perpetual Care

At 7:30 p.m., we were joined by Daniel Donovan and Betsy Castro of the Trustees of the Trust Funds to discuss the issues surrounding the perpetual care accounts. It is essential that we get this sorted out in order to be in compliance with state requirements for disbursement of the perpetual care funds.

We need to determine when the perpetual care accounts began and when they were no longer part of the Right to Inter. Our current Right to Inter was last changed in 2007, and makes no mention of perpetual care. We need to decide where these funds should be going, once we figure out the date perpetual care on lots ended. The perpetual care monies can only be used on those lots so designated, and only for mowing, trimming, and other ground maintenance on those particular lots.

We need to determine the following information for each cemetery:

- ➔ How many graves are in the cemetery (total to include all perpetual care graves, non-perpetual care graves, unsold graves)?
- ➔ How many of those graves are in perpetual care?
- ➔ What percentage of the area of the cemetery (which includes all graves as listed above plus common areas) is in perpetual care?

Since the cemeteries date back quite a ways, and there is limited documentation on South Yard and Vale End, this will be time consuming, but we think it is do-able. The Board will concentrate on Laurel Hill to start, as it is the most well-documented. Mary Ann will see if there is enough information in town records to help determine how many graves are in each plot at Laurel Hill.

Perpetual care is mentioned in our Cemetery Rules and Regulations, but it should read “general maintenance”. A Right to Inter does not designate perpetual care funds. Mary Ann will change Section II A of the Rules and Regulations accordingly.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Shea